

## Nevada State Health Division Primary Care Development Center

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### *Our Mission Is To:*

- ❖ Improve access to primary care resources to medically vulnerable and underserved people.
- ❖ Promote preventive health care services.
- ❖ Decrease health access disparities.



### *Major PCDC Activities include the following:*

- ❖ Designation of Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA) and Medically Underserved Areas and Populations (MUA/MUP).
- ❖ Placement of health profession students in primary care clinics through the Student/Resident Experience And Rotations in Community Health (SEARCH) Program.
- ❖ Assist communities in recruitment and retention of primary care health providers by placing J-1 Visa Waiver physicians and National Health Service Corps (NHSC) scholars and loan repayors.
- ❖ Development of state and county demographics, health resource profiles, county needs assessments, policy and data analysis, and performance measures.
- ❖ Provide technical assistance to medical students, health care providers, clinics, and community partners in fostering access to health care resources.

## Community Partners

### *Great Basin Primary Care Association*

Ph: 775-887-0417 Fx: 775-887-3562

Web: <http://gbpca.org>

Email: [healthcare@gbpca.org](mailto:healthcare@gbpca.org)

### *Nevada State Office of Rural Health*

Reno: 775-784-4841 Elko: 775-738-3828

Web: <http://unr.edu/med/dept/cehso/orh>

### *University of Nevada School of Medicine*

Ph: 775-784-6063

Web: <http://unr.edu/med>

Email: [asa@med.unr.edu](mailto:asa@med.unr.edu)

### *Nevada Rural Hospital Partners*

Ph: 775-827-4770

Web: <http://nrhp.org>

Email: [jan@nrhp.org](mailto:jan@nrhp.org)

### *Area Health Education Centers:*

- High Sierra AHEC-Reno: 775-827-2432  
Web: <http://highsierraahec.org>
- Northeastern AHEC-Elko: 775-738-3828  
Web: <http://unr.edu/med/dept/cehso>
- Southern Nevada AHEC: 877-318-2432  
Web: <http://snahec.org>

Nevada State Health Division  
Bureau of Family Health Services  
Primary Care Development Center  
3427 Goni Road, Suite 108  
Carson City, NV 89706  
775-684-4220  
[www.health.nv.gov](http://www.health.nv.gov)



# Nevada Primary Care Office

## Health Professional Shortage Areas

## Student/Resident Experience And Rotations in Community Health (SEARCH) Program

## J-1 Visa Program/Conrad 30 Program

### *What is a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)?*

Defined as a geographic area, a population group, or a public or nonprofit facility that has a shortage of health care professionals. All HPSAs are assigned a score based on four criteria: population to provider ratio, poverty level, distance or travel time to the nearest source of accessible care, and infant mortality rate or low-birth weight rate.

### *Types of HPSA Designations:*

- ❖ Primary Care
- ❖ Dental Health
- ❖ Mental Health

### *Medically Underserved Areas and Populations MUA/MUP:*

An area or population determined to have primary care shortage based on: ratio of primary medical care physicians per 1,000 population, infant mortality rate, percentage of the population with incomes below the poverty level, and percentage of the population age 65 or over.

The Nevada SEARCH Program is funded by the National Health Service Corps (NHSC). The SEARCH Program provides health profession students and residents with a hands-on opportunity to receive culturally competent community-responsive health care training within HPSAs. Qualifying health professions include: Certified Nurse-Midwife, Clinical Psychologist, Clinical Social Worker, Dental Hygienist, Dentist, Licensed Professional Counselor, Marriage and Family Therapist, Medical Resident, Medical Student, Nurse Practitioner, Psychiatric Nurse Specialist and Physician Assistant.



### National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program

The NHSC continually seeks clinicians dedicated to working with our nation's underserved. Fully trained health professionals who are dedicated to working with the underserved and have qualifying educational loans are eligible to compete for repayment of those loans if they choose to serve in a community of greatest need.

The Conrad 30 Program, or the J-1 Visa Program is a strategy designed to reduce the shortage of physicians in underserved areas in Nevada.

This program allows International Medical Graduates:

- ❖ To complete in the United States a medical residency and medical fellowship on a J-1 Visa.
- ❖ Upon completion of the residency/fellowship, continue practicing in the U.S. as long as a clinical employment contract within a HPSA is implemented:
  - The contract must be for a minimum of 3 years.
  - Through a National Interest Waiver, the physician may continue residency within the current clinic or transfer to a new facility in a HPSA for two additional years.

